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COUNTRY Latin American Transmitters

DATE: 25X1

SUBJECT Examples of Anti-U.S. Sentiment Expressed
in Latin American Radio Broadcasts

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PAGES 7

SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN

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SUMMARY

Among Latin American broadcasts monitored during the month of June 1947, the only extensive expressions of anti-U.S. sentiment of a propagandistic nature (involving, that is, the planned inculcation of themes centrally determined upon) are voiced by COCOT Havana, a transmitter controlled by the Cuban Popular Socialist Party (Communist). U.S. monopolies, "reactionaries," and "Yankee Imperialists" are attacked in broadcasts devoted to: the alleged domination by U.S. interests of the Cuban sugar industry; attempts by American firms to ruin the Cuban lumber industry; the "anti-democratic policy of the U.S. Government" that is "believed" to have been evidenced in Colombia and by implication in Brazil; the "reactionary" character of the Taft-Hartley Bill; the North American capitalist-monopolists' sponsorship of "reaction" in Hungary and their allegedly tacit approval of "dictator Trujillo's" fraudulent reelection in Santo Domingo; and the responsibility of "inhuman capitalist gentlemen, (who continue) to make money with unserviceable planes," for the recent air disasters in the U.S. and elsewhere.

Instances of anti-U.S. sentiment or criticism appearing in monitored broadcasts of other Latin American transmitters are infrequent. Occasional statements of prominent individuals who are critical of aspects of U.S. foreign policy are reported or quoted—as are statements criticizing U.S. groups or individuals, but not necessarily U.S. policy as such. With reference to the Arms Standardization Plan, XEBT Mexico mentions the opposition by the Argentine Radical Deputy, Candiotti, to the plan, and the Buenos Aires radio quotes a U.S. Congressman as severely criticizing it. XEBT Mexico also quotes a statement made by Lombardo Toledano at the WFTU Conference in Prague assailing the American Federation of Labor as a threat to organized labor in Latin America. The Buenos Aires radio quotes a criticism of the ASSOCIATED PRESS by the Argentine Under Secretariat of Information. A TGWA Guatemala City "special broadcast" attacks an American lumber magnate for his political maneuverings in Nicaragua but expresses the hope that the U.S. will continue Roosevelt's Good Neighbor Policy.

The following pages of this report include the instances of anti-U.S. sentiment appearing in monitored Latin American broadcasts during the month of June 1947.

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U.S. Threat to Cuban Industries

COCK HAVANA, IN SPANISH TO CUBA, JUNE 7, 1947, 7:30 A.M. EST.

(Text)

"Our Editorial: News which is worthy of serious reflection has reached Cuba. England is negotiating with Santo Domingo for the purchase of that country's next sugar harvest at a cost of 5 centavos. In other words, if this deal goes through, the quantity of Cuban sugar which the United States is distributing in Europe would be decreased with harmful consequences to Cuba.

"But this is not the only serious point in the matter. Santo Domingo is negotiating with England for the sale of her sugar. Cuba sells her sugar to the Government of the United States, which takes it upon itself to play the advantageous role of middleman with the European countries. Why? Today Cuba is practically isolated in the business world. It depends on the Yankee market for everything. Is there any reason making this necessary? No.

"The U.S. purchases Cuban sugar at a cost of 5.42 in the port of New York, and then sells it to England at a profitable higher price and with all the resultant advantages of the deal. In this way the United States makes a good haul and gets the lion's share out of her relations with small Nations. It was said that England could not buy sugar from Cuba because she lacked foreign exchange. But how can she make purchases in Santo Domingo?

"Furthermore, why do we not establish relations between England and other countries in Europe on bases of mutual accommodation....? (Why is it that) trade cannot be conducted between Cuba and these countries with beneficial results for the contracting parties? What we have learned about England's (situation) shows that this is possible. Cuba is in a much better situation economically than is Santo Domingo. We must conduct a mercantile policy (which will no longer make us) exclusively dependent on the United States.... Cuba must immediately interest herself in diversified foreign markets. This is of benefit not only to Cuba, but also to many European countries. The only 'opponents' would be the Yankee monopolists, who are interested in keeping our island under the yoke (of their investments), which bring them good dividends. Cuba must energetically advance along the road.... It is urgently necessary to protect ourselves from the grave crisis approaching."

COCK HAVANA, IN SPANISH TO CUBA, MAY 30, 1947, 7:30 A.M. EST.

(Text)

"The Cuban lumber industry is faced with a serious threat. North American firms intend to invade the national market with finished and partially finished wood products, thus eliminating the work done by Cuban wood workers. If this were to happen, more than 30,000 Cuban workers would be unemployed. The Cuban lumber industry has developed greatly in recent years. Cuban workers in this industry have won important concessions. Their salaries have been invested to the general improvement of conditions in the country. It is Cuban money being spent in Cuba for the profit of Cubans.

"If Yankee imperialists succeed in their attempt to bring in large amounts of manufactured wood products at prices that are deliberately intended to ruin the Cuban industry, not only would this branch of labor be unemployed, but the results would be felt in the national and popular economy. It would be another step towards poverty. This is not a hypothetical threat but an immediate one, a real one. These American firms are already causing great harm to the Cuban economy with the introduction of canned (goods) which could be produced in Cuba because we have resources for so doing. Now they are going even farther. In recent days, cargoes of manufactured wood products have arrived in Havana ports from the United States.

Brazilian Communism

COCK HAVANA, IN SPANISH TO CUBA, MAY 29, 1947, 7:30 A.M. EST

(Summary)

Our Editorial: Antidemocratic and reactionary forces are being hit repeatedly and have had to withdraw from the attacks they had planned and initiated. Events in Colombia and Brazil support our statement. In Colombia certain elements around Ospina, the newspaper EL LIBERAL tells us, launched a fascist offensive against the labor movement and democracy in their country not so long ago. The first step of what was to have been a series of retrogressive events was the suspension of the legal status of the CTC. The measure was greeted with savage shouts of joy by reactionaries everywhere.

There was believed to be a symptom of the influence and the antidemocratic policy of the U.S. Government, and a sign of what was to happen to the people everywhere. But the people reacted. Colombia revoked the arbitrary measure and the Confederation of Colombian workers keeps its status. Why was this offensive waged by the Colombian reactionaries? The people of Colombia protested energetically against the reactionary measures and public opinion passed against it. The Colombians maintained order in the face of their enemies, enemies of progress and freedom in Colombia.

In Brazil, too, fascists have gathered around Dutra and caused the Communist Party to be outlawed. Reactionary forces intended to take advantage of this situation to launch an attack against democracy in Brazil to justify a fascist military coup d'etat. Their plans are being thwarted by the determination and serenity of the party.

Taft-Hartley Bill

COCK HAVANA, IN SPANISH TO CUBA, JUNE 13, 1947, 7:30 A.M. EST

(Text)

Our Editorial: The miners in Pennsylvania have gone on strike as a protest against the reactionary attempt to impose antilabor legislation in the United States. In New York, there are continued protests against this regressive step. The Mayor of the city, in a laudable democratic posture, declared June 4 a day of protest against the Taft-Hartley bill. In the meetings organized by Henry Wallace speakers and audience give voice to their discontent. This is a frank protest against this reactionary attempt on the part of antipopular and antidemocratic North American forces.

"These facts are a warning and a stimulus for our people. They mean that the workers and the people of the United States are alert to this attempt to mock their rights and their conquests, to this camouflaged offensive against democratic freedoms and progress in the country. It is to the interest of the people of Latin America that this law be not approved. There is no doubt that legislation of such a nature will influence many Governments and some legislators who are ready to serve Yankee imperialism unconditionally. If the Taft-Hartley bill is approved in the United States, there is no doubt that the reactionary forces both inside and outside the Government would exert their influence, would mobilize all their resources to impose antilabor laws which are undeniably Fascist on our workers and our people.

"The protests of the workers and the people in the United States must find an echo here. The CTC trade unions and federations must join with all popular organizations and express their solidarity with the valiant rejection on the part of North American trade unions and democrats of the barbaric reactionary attempt sponsored by Hartley and Taft. Unite your protests into a single protest. Raise your voices in unison to reject it. Make of all organizations a single unit. Unify the protest movement with the active participation of all workers, all the peoples of our America. This is the battle cry. This is the task awaiting our combative action. In defense of our social rights and our economic conquests, in defense of our future, we actively express our solidarity with the workers and the people of the United States."

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COCK HAVANA, IN SPANISH TO CUBA, JUNE 14, 1947, 7:30 A.M. EST

(Excerpt)

"Our Editorial: Some days ago the dictator of Santo Domingo, Trujillo, announced through the generous North American propaganda enterprises that free elections would be held in the country he is oppressing. He uttered a series of key words to gild what he was preparing to do. He spoke of democracy, free will of the people, and so on and so on. The results are well known. He was reelected by means of fraud, coercion, bloody terror, (and repression). After this mockery of the most elemental democratic rights, the policy of terror assumed greater and more violence and went so far as formally to declare the Socialist Popular Party illegal, which it already was de facto.

"This news, which assumes the greatest significance and illustrates the activities of neo-fascist reaction in America, had no repercussions at all in the great capitalist news enterprises. Those who hypocritically speak of democracy, those who shout against the popular Government of Hungary because it was able to strangle at the opportune time a dangerous reactionary attack sponsored by North American capitalist monopolists, those who daily and on every occasion denounce alleged perils to peace and the rights of nations, those persons say nothing to condemn this act of Hitlerian barbarity, this profoundly antidemocratic step, this dictatorial and regressive step. This is profoundly significant and revealing.

"While they attack the great forward steps of democracy, they are silent about events such as occurred in Santo Domingo and which are nothing other than a renewal of an old coup d'etat directly aimed against the people, against their rights, their freedoms, and against their future. (It is fitting that) those who announce that the U.N. should take up the problem of Hungary, which is a case where democracy has triumphed, should take before that international organization the above mentioned flagrant violation of the rights of (Dominicans)."

"Unserviceable" Airplanes

COCK HAVANA, IN SPANISH TO CUBA, JUNE 17, 1947, 7:30 A.M. EST

(Text)

"Editorial: A new air disaster, with a terrible total of 50 killed; has just (taken place) dramatically near Leesburg, Virginia. Once again it was a DC-4, undoubtedly a plane weakened by the hard toils of the war.

"It is time that energetic measures be taken by the Governments, in particular that of the United States, in order to prevent inhuman capitalist gentlemen from continuing to make money with unserviceable planes, and cutting off the lives of their fellow beings. The use of motors which have been subjected to very severe trials during the war should not be allowed, even though this affords big gains to a group of magnates and although many of these magnates are in league with prominent Government officials.

"In this regime which we are suffering frequently the magnates and the Government officials are the same persons. This explains the monstrosity that disasters similar to that of Leesburg are occurring daily and that those who are obliged to guard the security of the passengers utilizing the air services have failed to take urgent measures.

Boycott Recommended

"If those who have this inescapable obligation persist in this—in that which already constitutes criminal (negligence)—it is up to the passengers to take action in harmony with the serious circumstances. There is no other alternative but to dispense with air service, firmly renouncing the planes until such time as there is such security that effective measures are actually being taken to meet the problem. There is no other way of gaining urgent attention, for the magnate gentlemen of this or any other enterprise are incapable of reacting spontaneously, not even in the face of a case such as we are commenting on and which has already cost hundreds of human lives.

"Unfortunately, it is regrettable to mention that the opinion of the air passengers is not being taken into account in the case of the above mentioned disaster."

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"Unfortunately, it is a reality frequently proved that the egoism of the big capitalists makes them impervious to the logical human reactions which the elements of the population normally experience. Only when they notice that their intense economic interests are in danger do they agree to rectify the matter. Hence we fail to see any other way but to affect these interests by means of a large-scale action on the part of the passengers by renouncing air transport and thus stirring into action the rich owners of these enterprises who have up to the present been insensible to the continuous and terrible problem of air disasters.

"When the revenues of the most powerful air companies suffer a growing decrease, then and only then will the gentlemen proprietors (empresarios) hurry to withdraw the worn out planes and obtain new ones. Try it out, and you will see we are right.

"Do not believe in the spontaneity or in the (wisdom) of those who are animated by the sole motive (hecho) of accumulating millions. Nothing effective will be done until they are obliged by attacking them in that which hurts them most--in their profits, which have been enormously augmented by the use and abuse of cheap planes acquired at liquidation prices and as surplus war materiel. And when the firm action of the passengers achieves what hundreds of fatal accidents have failed to achieve, we shall have had the opportunity of once more proving that capitalism is a negative, inhuman, and brutal system."

Arms Standardization Plan

XEBT MEXICO, D.F., IN SPANISH TO MEXICO, MAY 30, 1947, 11:15 P.M. EST

(Text)

"Buenos Aires, Argentina, UNITED PRESS, New York--Radical Deputy Alberto Gandiotti presented two resolutions today which if approved would recommend that the Argentine Nation oppose at any American conference the Truman plan for standardization of armaments and equality of training of soldiers of the American Republics.

"The proposal of President Truman was not concretely mentioned, but Gandiotti left no doubt that his resolutions pertained to it. The first of these resolutions says that the Argentine delegations should receive express instructions not to make any commitment to (join)...the Nations of this Continent in the adoption of a single system of armaments.

"He calls attention to the fact that the...of arms would tend to create an armament race between the Nations of (genuine) democracy."

LRS, BUENOS AIRES, IN SPANISH TO ARGENTINA, JUNE 9, 1947, 9:30 P.M. EST

(Excerpt)

"In the House of Representatives, Republican Congressman Scott severely criticized the Truman plan (for standardization of arms--Ed.). 'We are opposed to using our fiscal revenue,' he said, 'to make some uncertain friends and many permanent enemies. I believe that the Truman plan will only succeed in keeping some dictatorships in power.'"

AFET, "Machinations"

XEBT MEXICO, D.F., IN SPANISH TO MEXICO, JUNE 10, 1947, 11:15 P.M. EST

(Text)

"Prague (UNITED PRESS) New York--The Mexican labor leader, Vicente Lombardo Toledano, stated today that the American Federation of Labor is at present operating in the Latin American countries in a huge post-war campaign to corrupt the greatest possible number of labor leaders of the working class in order to destroy the unity of the organizations which the leaders of the A.F. of L. have classified as Communist. Toledano devoted the greater part of his speech made before the General

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Council of the World Federation of Trade Unions, now meeting in Prague, to a denunciation of the intentions of the A.F. of L. toward obtaining control of labor organizations in Latin America. He requested the World Federation of Trade Unions to aid in checking the increasing momentum of the American Federation of Labor."

AP "Untruthful"

LRA BUENOS AIRES, IN SPANISH TO ARGENTINA, JUNE 16, 1947, 6:30 P.M. EST

(Text)

"The Under Secretariat of Information made public the following communique: 'In view of the reiterated adulterations of the truth by the news agency, the ASSOCIATED PRESS, the tendentiousness of its information, generally (distorted) or mutilated in a malicious manner and propagated with unscrupulous (inconfesables) aims in order to prejudice the good name of our country abroad, and give to our country erroneous reports about the realities taking place in the rest of the world, this Under Secretariat of Information declares that that agency does not fulfill the specific aims of all honest newspaper organizations and is, on the other hand, an instrument of certain interests determined to prejudice the good relations of our country with friendly Governments.'"

"Dollar Diplomacy"

TCMA GUATEMALA CITY, IN SPANISH TO NICARAGUA, JUNE 14, 1947, 9:00 A.M. EST

(Special Broadcast)

(By Jose Madrid Thomas, Nicaraguan Patriotic Council Spokesman)

(Text)

"The Nicaraguan people must not believe that the presence of powerful foreign interests which are behind Somoza and his clique will gain them the official support of the United States. In this connection there has been a report in this Capital of Guatemala to the effect that because of the methods used in this situation the moves of the holder of timber concessions in Nicaragua (Mr. Scott) are being followed very closely and it is assured that this powerful potentate is supporting the Presidential candidacy of Mariano Arguello Varga by making use of the meeting of the Constituent Assembly which has been called by Somoza's man, Lacayo.

"Authorized sources reported that this criminal act in international policy will be denounced to the State Department and to the Senate in Washington. As we reported yesterday from various foreign representatives, various groups (will make the necessary steps) to bring up this situation before the Inter-American Conference which will be held soon in Rio de Janeiro. In this conference political scandals created by power grabbers in their countries will be dealt with and it is assured that a tribunal will be established so that punitive sanctions can be applied in the name of all the Nations of America.

North American Interference

"Since the interference of North American companies in the internal policy of Latin America is the object of special attention in the foreign relations of the United States, and since in cases in which there was a suspicion that such acts had occurred the State Department has speedily condemned this type of meddling to leave no doubt in the sincerity of Pan-Americanism, we are sure that the Nicaraguan situation will get the same attention. The position of the upholders of the Legitimistas in Nicaragua who are fighting for the restoration of the Constitutional Government of Dr. Leonardo Arguello will be greatly strengthened by the interest of many countries of the Hemisphere, which have strongly opposed the economic intervention carried out at times without cause with the support of the United States.

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"This leads us to state a few facts in this connection. We recall that the investment of foreign capital culminated in many countries of the world in armed intervention bringing about the imperialist tragedy which destroyed the sovereignty of many States and placed them under the control of large Powers although the latter never imposed these restrictions officially

"In Latin America it fell to the United States to undertake this type of economic policy which imposed itself on American international rights and which came to be known as 'dollar diplomacy'. With the coming to power of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, a new era started which respects the dignity of peoples. (The policy of Herbert Hoover as intervener came to an end.) The Marines which remained in Nicaragua throughout that administration had as their main mission to guarantee the large gold mines which were the property of North American companies and in which President Hoover was, or still is, a large shareholder. The results of the influence of that capital have already been decisive in the political development of Central America. These cases are so numerous and so well known that there is no need to give any specific reference.

Good Neighbor Policy

"The same thing happened in South America until the coming into being of the Good Neighbor Policy. Revolutionary elements in Latin America have gone so far as to state that this policy was only a narcotic (and a new name for what was formerly considered a world scandal). We do not believe that the intentions of President Roosevelt cloaked imperialistic aims and that his many declarations as the knight of democracy were part of premeditated hypocrisy. We must remember that the interests fighting against him in the United States itself were so great that in several instances they brought about the failure of his economic plan in the new policy. To this we must add that the internal affairs of these countries are only known in Washington through the official version given by the Government in power which presents things in its fashion, although it may be very far from the truth.

"Recently the State Department condemned the introduction of North American capital in the internal affairs of Paraguay when machinations against free popular action were denounced. The same happened in Bolivia. Even though the fall of Villaroel was very suspicious, still in the conscience of America the drama which took place in La Paz is very clear.

"Now we have on our Central American soil the case of Nicaragua. Its solution has a direct bearing on all the countries of this region. Somoza, through his puppet, has called a session of a Constituent Assembly. The usurper is trying to perpetuate his tyranny as assumed legality. If these events were allowed to continue, they would so discredit the United States that no faith could be placed in any of their plans, nor in their sense of decency.

Privileges from Somoza

"The best allies of Somoza are the companies that have received privileges from him and which have had to pay for these favors at rates that mean a loss to the national wealth. One of the North American magnates who has gained from this is (Mr. Scott), to whom Congress granted the (profitable) concession to exploit the woods on the Atlantic shore which has already netted for him several million dollars by paying the State a nominal sum for this exploitation. The proxy for this potentate is Mariano Arguello Varga, the..., the lap dog and protege, whose Presidential candidacy has been pushed and supported by (Mr. Scott). This act represents a very dangerous infraction of Nicaraguan sovereignty and a threat to Central American peace. It must be denounced by the press of the Continent so that the State Department and the Senate in Washington will make their denouncement which will be made by other means with the object of destroying this new phase of Somozan deceit.

"Dollar diplomacy must not come back. People of Nicaragua, the democracies of America are behind us! Continue the fight! Unity! Action! Somoza is a political dead man! May his body rot outside the frontier of Nicaragua!"

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